

what's right and for tackling what's wrong in America. She was the Nation's conscience during Watergate and helped restore America's faith in the Constitution.

That is why students lined up for hours at the LBJ School of Public Affairs just to register for her class. Now, that was a line worth standing in.

These students understood that it was a treat to be taught by this woman of many firsts. The first African-American, and first woman, elected to the Texas Senate. The first southern black elected to Congress since the Reconstruction, and the only woman in her law school class in Boston University.

Barbara Jordan inspired us because she was a visionary who firmly believed in this Nation's potential. Our country is different today because of her and the strength, integrity and sensibility that she symbolized.

Barbara Jordan was a great American. She was proud to be black, proud to be a woman, proud to be a Texan, and proud to be an American. I know she will live in our hearts and minds forever.

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR GEORGE GASTON

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, thousands of people in Alabama and all over the country were deeply saddened by the death of Dr. Arthur George Gaston on January 19, 1996. He was one of the most successful businessmen of our time, as well as a generous philanthropist and civic leader who never forgot his humble beginnings.

When I think of A.G. Gaston, many different facets of his life come to mind. Of course, his longevity, his business success, his compassion for the less fortunate, his lifelong battle for civil rights, and his many tangible contributions to his community, State, and Nation are things that stand out.

But I am also reminded that Dr. Gaston was born on the Fourth of July in 1892. He shared his birthday with our Republic, and in many significant and profound ways, he and the Nation grew up and matured together during those more than 100 years of his lifetime. It was so fitting that he was born on the Fourth of July, the founding of our country, for he was truly the American dream personified.

During his long and unusually productive life, Dr. Gaston helped countless young people obtain an education, supported numerous causes, including the civil rights movement, and inspired several generations to achieve great things through hard work, perseverance, and a commitment to lifelong learning. He served his church and his people with passionate dedication, energy, and wisdom.

Just a few short years ago, as he celebrated the anniversary of his 100th birthday, Dr. Gaston remarked, "The Lord has seen fit to let me live to this age for a purpose and it is my hope that I have served him and my people

as he wanted me to. I have lived a long life. I have received many blessings."

A.G. Gaston's life did indeed have purpose and meaning, so much so that it is difficult to capture them in words. Those who knew him, either directly or indirectly, knew what that purpose and meaning were by the example he set and by the tremendous contributions he made to those around him. He was a remarkable role model—a quintessential American success story. There is no doubt that he used his many gifts and blessings and served his fellow man in the way the Lord intended. In so doing, he became one of God's most generous gifts to us.

Dr. Gaston will be greatly missed, but his legacy is one that will never fade. I ask unanimous consent that a Birmingham News editorial on his life and work be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Birmingham News, Jan. 21, 1996]

ARTHUR GEORGE GASTON

HIS DEATH IS A MONUMENTAL LOSS FOR BIRMINGHAM

He was as much an icon of Birmingham as is Vulcan, and the legend of A.G. Gaston was larger than life, as well.

And like Birmingham's man of steel, it was easy to think Gaston would be around forever.

Friday morning, however, A.G. Gaston died in Medical Center East at the age of 103, a monumental loss for the Birmingham community.

Born on the Fourth of July in 1892, the grandson of slaves served in the Army with distinction during World War I, then took a job working in a dry cleaning plant for \$5 a week.

At a time when black entrepreneurs were almost unheard of, Gaston began a burial insurance business for black people that mushroomed into an empire which eventually included real estate, radio stations, funeral homes and a motel.

During the 1960s, Gaston, because of his stature in the community, became a key figure in tense negotiations between black and white leaders as Martin Luther King's campaign in Birmingham brought worldwide attention.

Gaston actually worked behind the scenes to get King out of town, until he saw firehoses tumble a little girl down the street.

Many will remember Gaston for his business acumen and how he developed other black business people; for his rules for success that sound almost quaint but still apply in today's world ("Save a part of all you earn. Money doesn't spoil. It keeps."); for his role in Birmingham's civil rights struggles; for virtually giving away his empire to employees in the 1980s; for his work with the city's Boys' Clubs of America.

Perhaps the best way to remember Gaston, though, is the way former Mayor David Vann recalled him Friday.

Gaston's greatest attribute, Vann said, was that "he proved a person in a very suppressed minority, with little formal education, could lead a very successful life and proved to our society that a good person can set important standards for the society in which he lives."

He will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO FLOYD MANN

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, Floyd H. Mann, who served in the cabinets of

three Alabama Governors and is credited with saving the life of a civil rights activist in Montgomery, died on January 12, 1996 at the age of 76.

A native of Daviston, AL, located in Tallapoosa County, he served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. As a tail gunner on a B-17 aircraft, he flew on 27 combat missions, including the first daylight raid on Berlin. He received numerous awards for his brave service, including the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Floyd Mann was a rather remarkable person and leader. He served as chief of police in Opelika, AL, from 1950 to 1958. He earned praise for his rapid clean-up of the town, which had suffered from corruption that had spread from nearby Phenix City. The Governor at the time, John Patterson, appointed Floyd director of the Alabama Department of Public Safety in 1959.

During his tenure, he made national headlines for his one-man charge into a rioting mob that was beating a bus full of civil rights freedom riders at a Montgomery bus station in 1961. He was credited as having helped save the life of a black Tennessee student and a Birmingham newsman during that painful incident. His heroic actions earned him the United Press International's Man of the Year in Alabama Award for 1961.

Later, Floyd served as director of public safety under Gov. Albert Brewer and was administrator of the State Alcoholic Beverage Control Board during Gov. Fob James' first term in 1982-83. He also worked as an assistant to University of Alabama President David Matthews, whom he followed to Washington, DC, to work with at the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

While at the University of Alabama, he was very active as the head of security and was a great public relations person for the school. He knew almost all of the alumni personally, and always greeted them with a bright smile, firm handshake, and warm conversation.

I remember being in Tuscaloosa, where the university is located, many times and going by the old Stafford Hotel early in the morning where a group of local citizens would be gathered for coffee. Floyd would always be right at the center of the group. Different people would come in and he would stay and meet with the groups. He was well liked and deeply respected.

Floyd Mann was one of those people who never failed to do what was right, even if it meant risking his personal safety. He knew the meaning of being neighborly, of treating others the way he wanted to be treated. He took a considerable degree of pride in his work, and seemed genuinely excited about the things he did and about the people around him.

I extend my sincerest condolences to Floyd's wife of 51 years, Grace, and